

WHAT'S GOOD! AT PJUSD



Pierce Joint Unified School District Newsletter

November 2018

Girls' Varsity Volleyball Wins Section Championship!

The Pierce Girls' Varsity Volleyball won the Section Championship on Saturday, November 3 in Red Bluff beating University Prep from Redding in three games. This is the first section championship for volleyball in the history of Pierce High School! Their road to the Section Championship began with a win over Wheatland and Sutter. The team is coached by Kim Travis. Players on this championship team include: Betsy Myers, Halle Charter, Sierra

Murphy, Katie Williams, Alexis Dorantes, Noemi Martinez, Abby Mendoza, Grace Alonso, Emma Doherty, Emily Ehrke, Ali Lux, Kathy Corona and Callie Muniz.



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Parents Graduate from PIQE!



Pierce High School hosted the Parent Institute for Quality Education (PIQE) program over the course of 9 weeks beginning in September and concluding with a graduation ceremony where parents earned a certificate of completion for attending and participating in the program. PIQE encourages parents to take an active role in their children's education. Objectives of the program include: creating a home learning environment, supporting their child's emotional and social

development, navigating the K-12 school system, engaging and collaborating with teachers, counselors, and principals, ensuring their children complete A-G high school requirements, and encouraging high school and college graduation.

BMX Anti-Bullying Presentation at Johnson Junior High

On Tuesday October 30th, JJH Parent Club hosted an exciting and engaging BMX Anti-Bullying and Healthy Lifestyle show at Johnson Junior High. World renowned pro BMX riders Mitch Mckelvey and Danny Josa dazzled students with their intricate stunts, backs flips and upbeat message on living a healthy life. They began the show by inviting two students, Gael Franco and Angie Alvarez, up to pick out the type of tricks Mitch should try to do and both students gave him quite the challenging set, which he performed with ease. Halfway through the show, the two pro riders stopped to address students about the 5 keys to a successful life: Drug-Free, Pursue Dreams, Stay Motivated, Respect Yourself/Others and Work Hard in School. Danny Josa shared with the students how these 5 keys steps led him from a

humble beginning in Hungary to his current status as a pro-bmx biker that has been asked to train the Hungarian Olympic Team. The riders closed the rally with one of the most popular portions of the show: jumping over 3 teachers! Mr. Marler, Mr. Schmidt and Ms. Reilly laid down on the blacktop as Danny jumped over them on his bike, clearing them with plenty of room to spare and the crazy roar of students cheering. It was an assembly to remember!



FBLA Attends Leadership Development Institute

In the Month of October our Pierce High School FBLA Chapter attended the Leadership Development Institute. 10 total members attended: Alex Centeno, Santos Merino, Cody Stafford, Samantha Gonzalez, Lilian Arens, Kiley Wilkerson, Annalise Danner, Steve Van Gieson, Matthew Reyna and Brayan Cano. This event was held in Santa Clara California as it is every year. What makes every trip different each year is the tours that we decide to do on the way there and on the way back. We visited and toured many places such as: Stanford University, the Intel Museum, the Google Android Park and the Jelly Belly Factory. During LDI we attended 6 leadership development workshops. There were many workshops including Market your Creativity, The Power of Persuasion, and 7 Habits of Highly Effective Teens. Each workshop taught us different skills that we can use and need to in order to be a successful person. These workshops honed our skills by teaching us how to market just about anything, effectively leading a conversation, and changing our daily habits in order to be more efficient. We all had an amazing experience and made so many new connections with members from the Northern, Central, Bay, and Golden State Sections. We would like to thank our fellow officers Alex Centeno, Cody Stafford, Santos Merino, and Samantha Gonzalez for supporting and guiding the members on this trip. We also want to thank our advisors for getting us to where we are today and being the best advisors there are.



G.R.E.A.T.



On October 18, 2018, Molly Conrado, Jody Ehrke, Kelli Garcia, Martha Martinez (4th grade teachers at Arbuckle Elementary School) along with Deputy Leanne Knutson, presented the G.R.E.A.T program to the school board. The program is in its second year of implementation at both Arbuckle Elementary School and Grand Island Elementary. The G.R.E.A.T program is a school-based, law-enforcement officer- instructed classroom curriculum. Prevention is its primary objective and the program is intended as an immunization against delinquency, youth violence, and gang membership. G.R.E.A.T lessons focus on providing life skills to students to help them avoid using delinquent behavior and violence to solve problems. The program consist of six lessons that are presented to individual classrooms one time a week. At the end of the six weeks the students are provided a certificate and a reward to celebrate the completion of the course. We feel lucky to have the support of the Colusa County Sherriff's Department as we continue to prepare our students to be successful citizens.



ELECTRIC BUSES COMING TO PIERCE JUSD

In September, the school district received word that they were successful in an electric bus grant application and were eligible to receive 2 electric buses. These two electric buses will replace two



1990 school buses that are in the current fleet. The retiring buses can remain as spares so long as they are not on the road more than 1,000 miles a year. Currently, the district is looking at its options for electric buses that are available in California. E-Lion, a company out of Canada, brought one of its electric buses recently to the district for a preview. School board members, administrators and bus drivers participated in the event which included a ride in the bus. Two of Pierce's bus drivers test drove the bus around the local area. Bluebird buses will be looked at as an option as well. Charging stations and infrastructure for these buses is being planned. There should be no charge to the district due to the grant funding.

2018 Agri-Bee



On Oct 12th Arbuckle FFA hosted the Agribbee. The Agribbee is sponsored by Butte County Farm Bureau and is an ag literacy spelling bee. The 2018 Agribbee was a huge success for the 4th and 5th grade students, with almost 50 participants from Arbuckle and Grand Island Elementary Schools. Abby Damron and Kashmire Nunley will be advancing to the finals in Durham on November 16th, with Kail Burgess as the alternate. All of the participants did an outstanding job and we are very proud of them.

PJUSD CELEBRATES!

Emma Hofhenke Wins High Honors



Emma Hofhenke, a junior at Pierce High School, auditioned and won a place in the High School Honors Performance Series at both Carnegie Hall and the Sydney Opera House. She is one of 49 students from the United States, Washington DC, 3 provinces of Canada, Australia, Bermuda, China, Hong Kong, Mexico, Poland, Qatar, South Korea, and Venezuela. In addition to this honor, she is the principle clarinetist with the Sacramento Youth Symphony and earned first chair for the FFA National Convention. In addition to her music, she is an Honor Student involved in 4H and FFA.

Surrounded by current second graders who will be the first class of third graders in the new eight classroom wing at Arbuckle Elementary School in August of 2019, Pierce Joint Unified School District Board of Trustees, John Friel, Abel Gomez, Amy Charter, Nadine High and George Green, Superintendent Carol Geyer and Principal Summer Shadley, dig their ceremonial shovels in the ground to symbolize the beginning of the construction process. McCuen Construction, the selected contractor, will be onsite immediately to meet the timeline of completing this building before the next school year.

District Breaks Ground at Arbuckle Elementary



After serving on the Pierce Joint Unified School District Board of Trustees for 30 years, John Friel accepts a plaque from Superintendent, Carol Geyer. The District is grateful for Mr. Friel's dedication and for his love of the students in the Pierce District and the community.